

NON-PUBLIC?: N
ACCESSION #: 9109050104
LICENSEE EVENT REPORT (LER)

FACILITY NAME: Joseph M. Farley Nuclear Plant - Unit 1 PAGE: 1 OF 3

DOCKET NUMBER: 05000348

TITLE: Reactor Trip Caused by Personnel Error
EVENT DATE: 08/02/91 LER #: 91-008-00 REPORT DATE: 08/28/91

OTHER FACILITIES INVOLVED: DOCKET NO: 05000

OPERATING MODE: 1 POWER LEVEL: 100

THIS REPORT IS SUBMITTED PURSUANT TO THE REQUIREMENTS OF 10 CFR
SECTION:
50.73(a)(2)(iv)

LICENSEE CONTACT FOR THIS LER:
NAME: D. N. Morey, General Manager - TELEPHONE: (205) 899-5156
Nuclear Plant

COMPONENT FAILURE DESCRIPTION:
CAUSE: SYSTEM: COMPONENT: MANUFACTURER:
REPORTABLE NPRDS:

SUPPLEMENTAL REPORT EXPECTED: No

ABSTRACT:

At 0001 on 8-2-91, with the unit operating at 100 percent power, an automatic reactor trip was initiated due to loss of power to reactor coolant pump (RCP) breaker position indication for 1C RCP breaker. This occurred when a systems operator (SO) reset a breaker which appeared to be tripped. This breaker supplies power to 120 volt regulated panel 1E which in turn provides power to the 1C RCP breaker position contact. Above 35 percent power a reactor trip is generated when an RCP breaker opens. Loss of power to the breaker position contact causes solid state protection to generate an RCP breaker reactor trip. The breaker supplying power to the 1C RCP breaker did not actually open.

This event was caused by cognitive personnel error. The control room plant operator granted permission to reset the breaker which provides power to 1C RCP breaker position indication contact without verifying the function of the breaker or determining the cause of the apparent tripped

condition.

The personnel involved have been counseled. Also, this event will be included in the next cycle of licensed and nonlicensed operator retraining.

A caution label which reads "Opening this breaker may cause a reactor trip" has been placed on the four associated breakers in Unit 1 and the four associated breakers in Unit 2.

END OF ABSTRACT

TEXT PAGE 2 OF 3

Plant and System Identification

Westinghouse - Pressurized Water Reactor Energy Industry Identification System codes are identified in the text as XX!.

Summary of Event

At 0001 on 8-2-91, with the unit operating at 100 percent power, an automatic reactor trip was initiated due to loss of power to reactor coolant pump (RCP) breaker position indication for 1C RCP breaker. This occurred when a systems operator (SO) reset a breaker which appeared to be tripped. This breaker supplies power to 120 volt regulated panel 1E which in turn provides power to the 1C RCP breaker position contact. Above 35 percent power a reactor trip is generated when an RCP breaker opens. Loss of power to the breaker position contact causes solid state protection to generate an RCP breaker reactor trip. The breaker supplying power to the 1C RCP breaker did not actually open.

Description of Event

On 8-1-91, the unit was operating at steady state 100 percent power. An SO, during routine rounds, noticed a 208 volt MCC breaker that appeared to be tripped. The SO contacted the control room plant operator (PO) for permission to reset the breaker by cycling it. The PO understood the breaker to supply a Sullelectron, which is used on some plant water systems to remove magnetized particles. Without verifying the function of the breaker or determining the cause of the apparent tripped condition, the PO gave permission to open the breaker. When the SO cycled the breaker, power was actually interrupted to the 1E Solatron (a voltage regulating device). This de-energized 120 volt regulated panel 1E which feeds the 1C RCP breaker position contact. Above 35 percent power a reactor trip is generated when an RCP breaker opens. Loss of power to the breaker

position contact causes solid state protection to generate an RCP breaker reactor trip JG1. The reactor trip was initiated at 0001 on 8-2-91. The breaker supplying power to the 1C RCP breaker did not actually open.

Following the reactor trip, the operators implemented FNP-1-EEP-0 (Reactor Trip or Safety Injection) and FNP-1-ESP-0.1 (Reactor Trip Response), ensuring that the unit was safely in Mode 3 (Hot Standby).

Cause of Event

This event was caused by cognitive personnel error. The PO granted permission to reset the breaker which provides power to 1C RCP breaker position indication contact without verifying the function of the breaker or determining the cause of the apparent tripped condition.

TEXT PAGE 3 OF 3

Reportability Analysis and Safety Assessment

This event is reportable because of the actuation of the reactor protection system. After the trip, the following safety systems operated as designed:

- main feedwater was isolated with flow control valves and bypass valves closed;
- auxiliary feedwater pumps started automatically and provided flow to the steam generators;
- source range nuclear instrumentation automatically energized;
- pressurizer heaters and spray valves operated automatically as required to maintain system pressure.

There was no effect on the health and safety of the public.

Corrective Action

The personnel involved have been counseled. Also, this event will be included in the next cycle of licensed and nonlicensed operator retraining.

A caution label which reads "Opening this breaker may cause a reactor trip" has been placed on the four associated breakers in Unit 1 and the four associated breakers in Unit 2.

Additional Information

This event would not have been more severe if it had occurred under

different operating conditions.

No similar events have been reported by FNP.

No components failed during this event.

ATTACHMENT 1 TO 9109050104 PAGE 1 OF 1

Alabama Power Company
40 Inverness Center Parkway
Post Office Box 1295
Birmingham, Alabama 35201
Telephone 205 868-5086

J. D. Woodard Alabama Power
Vice President-Nuclear the southern electric system
Farley Project

August 28, 1991
10 CFR 50.73

Docket No. 50-348

U. S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission
ATTN: Document Control Desk
Washington, DC 20555

Joseph M. Farley Nuclear Plant - Unit 1
Licensee Event Report No. LER 91-008-00

Gentlemen:

Joseph M. Farley Nuclear Plant, Unit 1, Licensee Event Report No. LER 91-008-00 is being submitted in accordance with 10 CFR 50.73. If you have any questions, please advise.

Respectfully submitted,

J. D. Woodard

JDW/BHW:map 0223

Enclosure

cc: Mr. S. D. Ebnetter
Mr. G. F. Maxwell

*** END OF DOCUMENT ***
